



The Pedlar Bold,

THERE happen'd a pe lar bol,
 A pedlar bold there happen'd to be,
 He took his pack upon his back,
 And he went tripping o'er the lee.
 He happen'd to meet two troublesome men,
 Two trouble some men they happen'd to be,
 The one of them was call'd Robinhood,
 And the other little John so free,
 O pedlar, pedlar what's in thy pack,
 I pray thee now come tell to me?
 I have several suits of gay green silks,
 And silken bowstrings two or three.
 If you have several suits of gay green silks,
 And silken bowstrings two or three,
 Faith of my body, says little John,
 Half of them belongs to me.
 The pedlar he laid down his pack,
 As low, as low as to his knee,
 And if you make me move two foot from that,
 My pack and all shall go with thee.
 Then Little John drew out his sword,
 The pedlar stood unto his brand,
 So sore he fought till both did sweat,
 O pedlar, pedlar hold thy hand.
 O fie, O fie, says Robinhood,
 O fie, O fie says he,
 I'd meet a man in liquor stand,
 As would beat the pedlar, and also thee.
 Go try, go try, says Little John,
 Go try you master speedily,
 Faith of my body, says Little John,
 For that is neither you nor me.
 Then Robinhood drew out his sword,
 The pedlar stood unto his brand,
 So sore he fought, till both did sweat,
 O pedlar, pedlar, hold thy hand.
 What is thy name, says Robinhood,
 Pray thee now come tell to me,
 Nay by my faith, the pedlar says,
 Tell both your names you have told to me.
 One of us is call'd bold Robinhood,
 And the other Little John so free,
 And now it lies at my good will,
 Whether my name I tell to thee.
 I am Gamel Good, of the gay green wood,
 That travell'd far beyond the sea,
 For killing a man in my father's land,
 And from my country was forc'd to flee.
 If you are Gamel Good, of the gay green wood,
 As I suppose you for to be,
 We are two sisters sons, said he.
 What nearer cousins can we be.
 They sheath'd their swords, with friendly words,
 And so kindly did agree,
 They went to the tavern for to dine,
 And drink up botles merrily.

